AMSAT News Service Weekly Bulletins
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SB ALL @ AMSAT $ANS-353.01
MICROSAT LAUNCH STATUS REPORT #2

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 353.01 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD DECEMBER 19,1989
TO ALL RADIO AMATEURS BT

MICROSAT LAUNCH STATUS REPORT

Harold Price, NK6K reports that all of the MICROSAT spacecraft were mounted to the Ariane ASAP on Wednesday, 13 December 89. Finalized engineering checkout software was loaded the following day and regular checks of telemetry since show all to be nominal. Once the primary payload, SPOT 2, is mated to the payload structure and fueled, the MICROSATs may only be trickle charged 10 hours per day. The mating is scheduled to occur on Tuesday 19 December followed by "encapsulation" or closing of the fairing on Wednesday 20 December. The entire payload structure will then be placed on the Ariane third stage around 3 January 90.

During the final days before the AMSAT - UOSAT closeout, team members were busy with final preparations. Jeff Zerr and Chuck Stout applied final thermal coatings to all spacecraft. Project Manager Jan King, W3GEY, spent much of his time in meetings with Ariane officials to verify the integration schedule and ensure that the spacecraft batteries could be kept charged during the final days before launch. He also was involved in carefully rechecking everything to make sure that last minute handling had not damaged any of the spacecraft. WEBERSAT and UOSAT-E cameras were tested in an arrangement where each spacecraft could take pictures of the other and its support personnel. The LUSAT CW beacon was given a final tuning by Jose Machao, LU7JCN, and secured for flight.

With less than a month remaining before launch, most of the integration team have returned home or will shortly. Dave Cowdin, WD0HHU, has arrived in Kourou where he will spend the holidays and early January through launch day with the AMSAT payloads, monitoring their condition and making sure they remain in launch-ready condition.

/EX
SB ALL @ AMSAT $ANS-353.02
PRELIMINARY ALINS PLANS ANNOUNCED

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 353.02 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD DECEMBER 19,1989
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MICROSAT / UOSAT LAUNCH NETWORK PLANS ANNOUNCED

AMSAT is planning a comprehensive AMSAT Launch Information Network (ALINS) in support of the up-coming MICROSAT/UOSAT launch. The launch net will provide real time coverage of the launch day activities.

Providing HF support for the ALINS activity will be W1AW, WA3NAN, W5RRR, W6VIO and several overseas stations.

Additional stations may be added to the HF network. Exact HF frequencies and times of operation will be published in next week's report.

In support of local distribution via 2 meter FM repeaters around the country, AMSAT has, with the aid of the ARRL headquarters staff, secured the use of a teleconference bridge that will support over 100 different ports. It will therefore be possible for local repeaters to simply place a long distance telephone call and join the bridge.

It will be necessary for local repeater groups to reserve a port on the ALINS teleconference bridge. To reserve a port on the ALINS bridge for your local repeater group either drop a post card to: AMSAT Launch Information Network Service, c/o Courtney Duncan, N5BF, 4522 Ocean View, LaCanada, CA 91011. or make a telephone request by contacting Courtney at 818-957-8455 between 7 and 10 pm PST. Requests should be made no later than January 1st, 1990. AMSAT will notify repeater groups as to how they will be able to access the teleconference bridge around the 5th of January.

/EX
SB ALL @ AMSAT $ANS-353.03
EARLY MICROSAT FLIGHT OPERATIONS DETAILED

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 353.03 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD DECEMBER 19, 1989
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The engineering checkout software now residing in the MICROSAT computers is the software that will be used for the first few weeks of operation so that the spacecraft can be characterized in the space environment. Full telemetry will be available but there will be no interactive packet operation from the PACSATS, speech from DOVE, or pictures from WEBERSAT during the first few weeks of operation from space.

The four MICROSAT payloads are being flown "hot," that is, with electronics powered and software in the computer. When ejected from the ASAP, the separation switch will power satellite transmitter electronics, however, the transmitters will only be turned on by ground command later UOSATs D and E are, by contrast, being flown "cold," that is, the battery connection to the electronics passes through the separation switch. UOSAT ground command will spend the first several days of the mission uploading operating software to both spacecraft.

WEBERSAT, LUSAT, and PACSAT will be turned on between 90 and 300 minutes after launch. DOVE activation may be delayed for some additional time so that it can drift further away from the other MICROSATs to help prevent its two meter transmitter from blocking the receivers on the other MICROSATs.

Reception of WEBERSAT, LUSAT, and PACSAT will require an SSB receiver capable of tuning 437.0 to 435.2 MHz, an FO-12 compatible 1200 baud PSK demodulator, TNC, and terminal or computer. Early data may be obtained with the TNC in MONITOR mode but later, advanced operations will require TNC KISS mode operation and special PC software. DOVE telemetry will be transmitted in AFSK packet on 145.825 MHz FM. An unmodified 1200 baud terrestrial packet station can be used to receive this data.

Telemetry information and equations will be published very
shortly before launch. Watch the AMSAT News Service for
information on "opening day" for each spacecraft.

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SB ALL @ AMSAT $ANS-353.04
KL7GRF APPOINTED AMSAT OC - DX

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 353.04 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD DECEMBER 19, 1989
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AMSAT-NA Vice President for Operations, Courtney Duncan, N5BF
announces the appointment of John Fail, KL7GRF, Operational
Coordinator for Satellite DX. John has been a very active
satellite DXer for several years, has been instrumental in
getting many countries active on the satellites, and has
generally taken the lead in coordinating satellite DX operations.

KL7GRF and "the group" can usually be found on AMSAT-OSCAR 13
on 145.890 MHz or 435.960 MHz when in Modes B or J/L
respectively. All satellite operators are welcome to check
in for the latest news. In addition, John writes an up-to-the
-minute DX column for AMSAT publications.
For more information write to John Fail, KL7GRF, 6170 Downey
Ave., Long Beach, California, 90805.

KL7GRF will be the featured guest on the AMSAT Operations Net
for 30 December 89 which will meet on AO-13 at 1415 UTC on
435.970 MHz. He will be discussing upcoming DXpeditions to
Bouvet Island and Juan Hernandez, scheduling, DX operating
hints, and other satellite DX issues.

/EX
SB ALL @ AMSAT $ANS-353.05
AMSAT OPERATIONS NET SCHEDULE

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 353.05 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD DECEMBER 19, 1989
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Following is the schedule for Operations Nets for the next several
weeks.

Day	UTC	Day U.S.	Freq.	NCS	Guest
30 Dec 89	1415	Saturday	435.970	N5BF	KL7GRF
07 Jan 89	1700	Sunday	435.970	TBD	TBD
20 Jan 90	1400	Saturday	435.970	N5BF	KO5I

On 30 December, John Fail, KL7GRF, will be discussing satellite DXing,
presenting operating hints and information about the upcoming DXpeditions
to Bouvet Island and Juan Hernandez.

/EX
SB ALL @ AMSAT $ANS-353.06
SATELLITE OPERATING SCHEDULE

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 353.06 FROM AMSAT HQ
SILVER SPRING, MD DECEMBER 19, 1989
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OSCAR Satellite Operating Schedule

The following information is provided by AMSAT-DL.

AO-13 TRANSPONDER SCHEDULE

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MODE B   MA 000 TO MA 110
MODE JL  MA 110 TO MA 145
OFF      MA 145 TO MA 150     BAHN LAT +3.6 deg
S BEACON MA 146 TO MA 147     BAHN LON 179.4 deg
MODE S   MA 147 TO MA 160
MODE B   MA 150 TO MA 255
OMNI ANT MA 225 TO MA 035
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AMSAT OSCAR-10 is currently available for whole orbit operation via the mode B transponder.

/EX
SB ALL @ AMSAT $ANS-353.07
ZRO TEST SCHEDULE

HR AMSAT NEWS SERVICE BULLETIN 353.07 FROM AMSAT HQ
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ZRO Test Schedule

The following is a schedule of Mode B and Mode J/L ZRO test times and downlink frequencies.

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 Saturday   December 30, 1989 at 16:00 UTC  MODE B  145.840 MHz
 Saturday   January  06, 1990 at 18:00 UTC  MODE JL 435.945 MHz
 Saturday   January  13, 1990 at 12:00 UTC  MODE B  145.840 MHz
 Saturday   January  20, 1990 at 15:30 UTC  MODE B  145.840 MHz
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Any changes will be announced as soon as possible via the AMSAT HF/VHF Nets and OSCAR-13 Operations Nets. ZRO brochures are available from WA5ZIB, Andy MacAllister, AMSAT V.P. of User Operations, 14714 Knightsway Drive, Houston, TX 77083 for an S.A.S.E. with one unit of postage.

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